Let us promptly and publicly renounce any who counsel or condone violence. Let us acknowledge that we have a real stake in our society. Let us proudly acclaim our patriotism and our recognition that no other nation in the world offers such opportunity. The fiction that Negroes lack any opportunity in this country is dispelled by the status of those of you in this room.

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As Thomas Jefferson said, nearly two centuries ago, "With all the imperfections of our present government, it is without comparison the best existing, or that ever did exist."

NEWS RELEASE AND STATEMENT COMPLIMENTING MILITARY AND CIVILIAN UNITS IN HANDLING BALTIMORE DISORDER

April 13, 1968

Governor Agnew today complimented General Robert H. York and the military and civilian forces under his command for "the high standard of professional excellence they displayed during the recent events in Baltimore."

"The soldiers, who entered the City in the midst of rioting and disorder, combined firmness with restraint to restore order and enable the City to return to normal operations within a relatively short period of time," Governor Agnew said.

"They conducted themselves throughout the operation in a highly professional manner under extremely difficult circumstances.

"The citizens of Maryland are indebted to these troops and their commanders, and to our own Federalized National Guard forces who worked with them, for a job well done. We also deeply appreciate the equally professional performance of our City and State Police and Baltimore City firemen who did such a magnificant job under the trying conditions of the past week."

REMARKS NAMING THE GOVERNOR HARRY W. NICE BRIDGE, CROSSING THE POTOMAC RIVER, CHARLES COUNTY

April 15, 1968

Bridges are traditionally regarded as symbols of progress — the means to reach a better future and brighter hopes upon a distant horizon.